

ACTS MINISTRY

NEWS

Acts TV Spring Telethon Planned for June 1-5

Acts Television is well fitted for the stay-at-home order. As media, it is an essential business. Viewership has continued to grow during the pandemic and, for many, it is "the word" that they are receiving, according to Dr. James R. Wining, Acts Ministry president. While Acts TV is fulfilling its mission like never before, it has seen declines in revenue. Each week, Acts taps into an emergency fund to cover day-to-day expenses and is operating at a loss of over \$300 per week.

Acts TV will host a spring telethon June 1-5, designed to cover daily expenses and set some money aside to maintain equipment and to replenish the emergency fund. Tentative events for the telethon include a talent contest, with one to three minute performances; a church and ministry music competition with ministries submitting a sample of their music. Pastors will also compete; they will present their best two-minute sermon. Acts TV shows and their hosts will compete as well. All competitions will be judged by the viewers. They will vote with their donations to Acts Ministry and the winning individual or group will receive 25 percent of the donations for their category with the rest of the donations going to Acts Ministry. Finally, a raffle is planned for a big-ticket item with widespread appeal.

How can you help? In addition to donating, reach out to people through social media, telephone, and email. "With everyone's help, we can reach people we would not normally reach," Wining noted. Anyone wanting to be a contestant should email Matt Pearson at pearson-matthew622@gmail.com or message him on Facebook.

We will use good social distancing practices and will limit the number of people in the studio at one time.

May, 2020
NEWSLETTER



A Union Valley Church volunteer gets ready to deliver meals to handicapped and elderly shut ins around Ada Oklahoma. Church volunteers have delivered over 1,000 meals as of April 15.

Area Churches Respond Positively to COVID

Church as usual has been anything but usual recently as social distancing and stay-at-home orders have been issued across the nation. Churches, like society as a whole, are experiencing something that few of us has experienced in our lifetimes: quarantine. For many, it has meant meeting virtually. The pastors we interviewed agree that eventually congregations will be able to meet in person again, but all say that there will be longterm changes in how the church goes forward.

All of the pastors we spoke with had positive comments about what has happened in the past few weeks. Randall Christy, pastor of Union Valley Church in Ada, Oklahoma, says the church has started a food bank and hot meal delivery to help meet the needs in the community. As of April 15 the church has delivered over 1,000 meals to handicapped and elderly residents in the Ada community. Union Valley Church is also having drive-in services. Everyone remains in their cars and the service is lead from the second floor balcony. The services are also broadcast on 91.5 FM.

Micheal Pope, a former pastor who is currently a member at Wentzville United Methodist Church, says their

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Eversen Finds Ministry Opportunity in Trash



Bishop Dennis Eversen

"I hate to see anything good go to waste." Among his other skills and duties, Acts Ministry's Bishop Dennis Eversen is an unabashed dumpster diver. It was on one of his dumpster diving adventures that he stumbled upon a entirely new ministry that he has used to support missionaries and native pastors. Eversen discovered that many

perfectly usable books, often in like-new condition, find their way into the dumpsters. He began searching dumpsters specifically for books and buying books at garage sales in the area. Soon, he was donating books to missionaries and native pastors of foreign churches who might not have ready access to such materials.

Books are not the only resources Eversen hates to see go to waste. When he is not shepherding his church, Harvest Fellowship Church in Humansville, Missouri, he works for Arc of the Ozarks, a non-profit organization that has served the disabled for over 80 years. There, he helps the disabled, one or two at a time, deal with their disabilities and lead as normal lives as possible.

As a member of Acts Ministry's Board of Directors, Eversen lends his technical skills to help keep Acts Media radio and television programs up and running online. Whenever needed, he also helps with Acts Church in Springfield.

As if he were not busy enough, Eversen doesn't let his acting talent go to waste, either. He is involved with Stained Glass Theater, a Christian little theater in Ozark, Missouri, having performed in several of their stage productions. Depending on when the theater is able to reopen, he plans to be a cast member in "The Hiding Place" a stage production based on the true story of a Dutch family who hid Jews in their home during World War II.

Eversen is an avid gardener and annually grows enough produce to feed his family, to give away to church members, and to share with other members of the community.

He and his wife, Sylvia, have two children, Clayton and Grace.



Produce for Seniors Program to Continue this Summer

A state-funded program that provides up to \$50 worth of Missouri-grown produce to seniors will continue this year unabated by the COVID outbreak. Missouri Department of Agriculture's Rachel Heimericks explained that the program will change little from last year. The main difference will be scheduling; the \$5 vouchers can be used to buy fresh produce, herbs and honey at Missouri farmers' markets from June through October. The vouchers are available from local senior centers now through September.

That doesn't, however, mean that COVID will have no effect on the farmer's market experience this year. According to Heimericks, the markets will only be allowed to offer fresh, Missouri grown products. Nothing cooked and no crafts will be allowed. Also, most markets are offering curbside and drive-through pickup.

Details are available online at: <https://agriculture.mo.gov/abd/fmkt/pdf/sfmnp-customer-flyer.pdf>

Coping with COVID...



**There's always a way:
Baptism in the age of social distancing.**



Dr. Marty Hamilton



Pastor Dennis Eversen



Tony Hammock



Matt Pearson



Jason Cobb

Acts Television Network

Simulcast on Acts Radio

Archives are available on ActsMediagroup.com

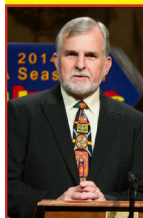
Click on Acts TV tab along the top of the home page or check out our YouTube channel.



Steve McAllister



Schuyler Carter



Bishop Tom Young



Amber Weigard-Buckley



Rev. Bruce Pearson



Rev. Leo Frohman

Basics of Faith

with Dr. Marty Hamilton
TBA

This program is designed for the person who wants to become a serious Bible student and have an in-depth study of God's word.

The Gold Standard

with Tony Hammock
Wednesdays, 9 am

What does the wise investor need to know about the markets this year? Are there other investments you need to know about? Plus look at Biblical stewardship principles

Happy Hour

with Dr. Paul Collins and Rev. Nancy Collins, Fridays, 9:30 am

Feb. 7, Dr. Bonnie MacAlmond naturopathic physician; Feb. 14, Steve Pokin, Springfield News-Leader columnist; Barry Albright, Kitchenland manager and house flipper.

Morning Drive

with Matt Pearson and Jacon Cobb
Weekdays, 8 am

It's the best way time to wake up; face a new day with joy and excitement. Their zest for life and love for God is contagious

Power Hour

with Schuyler Carter Thursdays, 9 am

Finally a program that talks to real men about real issues and helps them become what God intended them to be

Something to Celebrate

with Bishop Tom Young
and Amber Weigard-Buckley

Tuesdays, 9 am

You may hear from an author or find a new restaurant, hear inspiring testimonies. You will always find something to celebrate.

Veterans Church

with Rev. Bruce Pearson

and Rev. Leo Frohman

Thursdays, 9 am

A program by and for veterans and their families, but all are welcome to attend the Bible study.

Spirit in America

with Randy Baar, Fridays, 9-9:30 am

An new version of a popular series produced by Baar and broadcast on cable. Interesting interviews and talented performers

Brighter Living Live

with Steve McAllister, Day, 9 am

Steve knows just about every performer in Branson. Expect to see your favorite Branson stars as well as other interesting interviews

Transcendental Interactions

with Pastor Dennis Eversen

Days, Time TBA

Miraculous encounters and transcendental interactions. Considering how the spiritual world *is* the real world and our perception is clouded by the physical world.



Randy Barr



**Rev. Nancy Collins
Dr. Paul Collins**

**Remember:
April SRG Reports
are now due**

Real News Review Article of the Month

Paul Teaches to Obey Secular Authority

Thirty-seven states in the United States of America have issued “shut-down” orders because of COVID-19 (commonly called “Coronavirus”). At the time of this writing, within many other states some cities and counties have issued Stay-At-Home orders.

Should Christians abide by the orders? Should groups identified as Christians, and organized as churches, obey the orders?

Recently, a “Dr. Who” was arrested in Florida for disobeying the state’s mandate to forgo having services or gatherings that exceed a certain number of persons. Was “Dr. Who” doing his own thing acceptable Christian behavior? I won’t waste your time having you read too many of my personal opinions. I refer you to the writings of the Apostle Paul in his letter to the church at Rome. The recommended reference is Romans 13:1-7. Please read it for yourself. I conclude this column, however, with my opinion:

Christians, especially evangelicals who profess a deep-seated belief in following the Bible, should be familiar with Romans 13:1-7. It is written there with clarity that the great apostle believed Christians were to be

in compliance with secular authority. In other words, I believe that for a Christian to be obedient to the authority of God’s word, he or she must be obedient to the laws of their government. When “Dr. Who” chose to have several hundred people defy the laws of man, he set an example saying disobedience was desirable, and he potentially exposed hundreds more to the virus.

During my 65 plus years of ministry, I have never seen any form of civil disobedience posing a greater threat to an entire community, a state, and (perhaps) the nation as a whole. COVID-19 can, and will be defeated, but not by the likes of “Dr. Who.”

Let us pray.



Dr. Paul Collins
Founder, Acts Ministry

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Area Churches Meet Challenges of the COVID Outbreak

church has held services on Facebook and YouTube. He says the church has become aware of a need for better broadcasting equipment. While Pope believes the church will meet together again, he foresees more online options and continued meetings via social media. In response to current community needs, the church has expanded food pantry and meal delivery services. They also hold a drive in communion each Sunday. Pope says he is seeing more concerned for the needy and the socially isolated. “I think people are more aware of their own mortality, too,” he adds. “I think the ‘true’ church is standing up.” He also sees the churches uniting. “It’s not so much about denomination as community, now. What can we do together to help those in need?”

Pastor Dennis Eversen says he has gone from recording services to Facebook Live and YouTube. He says that the members like seeing services in real time. Several pastors mention that it is hard to preach to a virtual congregation when you can’t see their reaction or hear their responses.

Blue Springs Baptist Temple has been live-streaming three weekly services. Pastor James Russell admits that going online live was not something he was eager to do. Since going online, he has been pleasantly surprised that people have connected to the live stream who may have never attended services in person. Recently, three people who

were not regular attenders accepted Jesus Christ following the online service.

Independence Church in Stockton, Missouri, met for a few weeks online, but have resumed regular services. “We only had three people so far in the whole town that contracted COVID and they were quarantined for three weeks and have recovered,” says Pastor Ladena Bough. “We have a very small congregation and enough space to practice social distancing, so we have opened up the church and started meeting again.” The community thrift shop and food pantry is busier as people have been laid off.

The Church of the Harvest in Branson, Missouri, has closed for the time being. While they are not holding regular services, Pastor Billy Burris is encouraging his congregation to use the time to draw closer to God and to spend time in prayer and personal Bible study. He hopes that members will be drawn into a closer relationship with the Father.

Like other national emergencies, COVID has brought out the best in people. According to the pastors we interviewed, it may also have started a change in the way churches connect with one another and their communities. Regular in-person services will return, but the churches’ presence on social media is likely here to stay.

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